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ESTEY, J. A. *Revolutionary Syndicalism*. Pp. xxxvii, 212. Price, 7s. 6d. London: P. S. King and Son, 1913.

In this conscientious, scholarly and impartial study, Dr. Estey has given us one of the best reports of revolutionary syndicalism that has appeared. Although the historical study which precedes the analysis of syndicalism and its methods is exceedingly careful and accurate, the chief interest lies in the latter half of the book. Here are discussed syndicalist practice, the syndicalist state, the failure of the general strike and the limitations of the method of revolution. Under the heading syndicalist practice are discussed the general strike, sabotage, anti-militarism and external pressure. It is the general strike that receives the greatest consideration, because it is by this means that syndicalists hope to take over the present capitalistic system. The author traces the various attempts that have been made and examines critically the failure that has in each case resulted. He feels as does Sorel that the general strike can never be more than a dream and that it can never be successful. Dr. Estey feels that with the failure of the general strike must fall the entire scheme of revolutionary syndicalism. He shows, moreover, how it is gradually weakening and how the more recent conventions of the C. G. T. have leaned rather toward the methods of reform than to those of revolution. In spite of its repeated failures, in spite of the weakening of its power, it has accomplished much. "Its insistence on the practical application of the great motto of the international—'the emancipation of the laborers must be the work of the laborers themselves'—has engendered a habit of self-reliance, a courage and an optimism among the workers, that can only be a cause for general gratification." "It has succeeded in arousing the consciousness of the most apathetic workers." Dr. Estey has made a valuable and enlightening contribution to the literature of syndicalism.

ALEXANDER FLEISHER.

Philadelphia.

GALLOWAY, LEE. *Organization and Management*. (Vol. II of Modern Business Series, edited by Joseph French Johnson.) Pp. xix, 504. Price, \$3.50. New York: Alexander Hamilton Institute, 1913.

In this book the author purposed to show all the forces that influence modern business. In order to do so, he divides the work into two parts, the first dealing with organization. This term is used to cover an economic and sociological survey of the history of man from the savage state to the present social structure, and also includes a summary of the theory of factory location, and a discussion of markets, exchanges, the export business and consular service. In short, part one deals with all those things which affect a business outside its own walls. In part two, the author goes inside the factory and discusses in minute detail the theory of management.

The book would be valuable only to a business man who had no training in economics or sociology. It is too technical for general reading, and not enough specialized for a student of economics, so it has a limited scope of usefulness.

The author is primarily interested in scientific management; and should

have confined himself to that subject. Part one is too full of quotation and too little original, whereas part two speaks with authority. The work is poorly planned, for much that belongs in part two only is treated in both sections with very little change of viewpoint in either. Covering such a broad field, the volume cannot take high rank in any particular department.

R. MALCOLM KEIR.

University of Pennsylvania.

GEPHART, W. F. *Insurance and the State*. Pp. xiii, 228. Price, \$1.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1913.

Owing to a growing realization of the importance of insurance to the community, the subject of state regulation of the life and fire insurance businesses has assumed increasing importance. This discussion, coming at a time when the European countries are making life insurance a function and even a monopoly of government, and when, in our own country, fire underwriters' associations and fire rates are subject to much criticism, is certainly a timely one.

The topic is discussed in three sections, the first dealing with life insurance, the second with fire insurance and the third with social insurance, including industrial accident insurance, old age and invalidity insurance and unemployment insurance. While the facts contained are not new, the writer presents in this volume a consideration (from a practical rather than theoretical viewpoint) of the obstacles to state ownership and management of the insurance business. Although it is believed that some portions of the subject have been inadequately treated, such as, for example, the subject of fire rates, there is presented on the whole a very complete summary of the arguments for and against state ownership and control.

It is probably true that those best acquainted with the insurance business look fearfully upon government ownership and control. Gephart presents logical arguments in support of the policy of state regulation rather than control, so far as any definite recommendations can be discerned, for the volume is primarily a presentation of the problems which arise in the consideration of the question rather than an explanation of a remedy for evils which may exist.

In the portion dealing with social insurance the advantages and disadvantages of the state assumption of the business are discussed. While the author recognizes many benefits which would result from such assumption, his conclusion is that the form of government in the United States is not particularly favorable to this plan of operation, however successful it may have proved abroad.

R. RIEGEL.

University of Pennsylvania.

GILSON, J. C. *Wealth of the World's Waste Places and Oceania*. Pp. xiii, 327. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1913.

In part I the author aims to present a popular account of the chief physical, industrial, historical and political facts of the world's waste places. By "waste places" he means such parts of the earth's surface as our arid Southwest, the